

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

Public Comment Card

Please use this comment card to submit input regarding the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include any sources of relevant data or information that you feel may enhance this document. Comments must be received by **November 26, 2007**.

Comments can be submitted in the following ways:

1. Turn in today at the Public Meeting; or
2. By US Mail addressed to Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701; or
3. By E-mail to chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov; or
4. By Fax to (775) 884-8376; or
5. If you have questions regarding the EIS or the process, please call Caryn Hunt DeCarlo at (775) 884-8352.

Privacy Notice: Before including your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment - including your personal identifying information - may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Unless indicated by you otherwise, you will automatically be added to the official EIS mailing list by submitting this form.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name:

Russell & Debbie LaCroix

Affiliation (if any):

Street Address:

757 Frontage Rd

City, State, Zip:

Walker, NV 89415

Date:

11/17/07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

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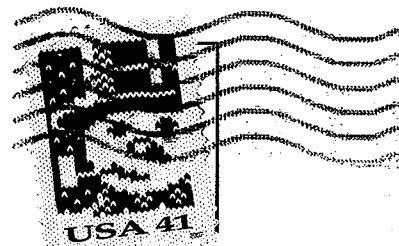
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Return Address:

RENO NV 895

LaCroix
757 Frontage Rd
Walker, NV
89415

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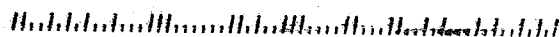
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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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657241+4066



To Whom It May Concern:

Foremost we want to preserve Walker Lake. Water is one of the most valuable resources of the State of Nevada. We do not want the Lake to turn in to another Mono Lake, CA or Owens Lake, CA.

The water available should be sufficient to satisfy the needs of all users in the Walker Lake Basin. Primary to accomplish this is accurate measurements for all diversions and wells to account for and police the users of water. No user should be able to use more than his or her allotment!

As a resident of the Walker Lake community I do not want the bed and banks of Walker Lake Community given to the Walker River Paiute Indian Tribe. We would like to see the Tribe take the bed and banks from the existing reservation down to and including Sportsman Park. Further we do not want any of the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D. to be involved in this transaction.

The following are important issues involved; I have circled the issues that are of interest to me personally:

- 1. Preserve Walker Lake as a recreation area for all people now and in the future.**
- 2. Preserve the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D.**
- 3. Exclude the bed and banks of the Walker Lake Community being given back to the Walker River Paiute Tribe.**
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- 5. Federal financing for development of ground water sources in the Hawthorne Army Depot Lands for either drinking water or to help maintain the level of Walker Lake.**
- 6. A co-coordinated study to provide solutions to meet the legal requirements for fire fighting and emergency services to rural communities.**
- 7. Waste Water Treatment Plants for Hawthorne and Walker Lake to help preserve Walker Lake water quality.**
- 8. Exclude the residents of Mineral County from being charged by the Walker River Paiute Tribe for using Walker Lake: Camping, Fishing, Boat Permits etc.**
- 9. Financial funding to improve the flow of water in the Walker River. Remove vegetation that consumes large quantities of water. Make necessary improvements to irrigation ditches to prevent water losses.**

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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: VEARL LAHRE
Affiliation (if any): WALKER LAKE LAND OWNER
Street Address: 510 JOSHUA RD.
City, State, Zip: WALKER LAKE, NV, 89415 Date: 11/18/07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

I BELIEVE THAT THE MILLIONS BEING SPENT
ON RESEARCH SHOULD BE USED TO PURCHASE
IRRIGATION SYSTEMS AND PUMPS FOR UP RIVER
FARMERS TO STOP FIELD FLOODING AND AID
IN WALKER LAKE WATER RELIEF.

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

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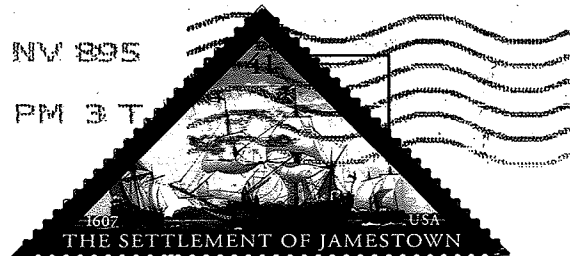
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Return Address:

LAHRE
PO Box 343
Hawthorne, NV.
89415

RENO NV 895

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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

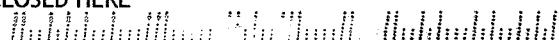
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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

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DATE: 11-29-07

TO: Ms. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Dept. of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
705 N. Plaza St., Rm. 320
Carson City, NV 89701
Phone: 775-884-8352
Fax: 775-884-8376
Email: chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov

RE: **WALKER RIVER PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dear Ms. Hunt DeCarlo,

Attached, please find my comments regarding the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program and the Environmental Impact Statement.

X, I request that personal identifying information which is included on this cover page, or in my attached comments, be withheld.

X, I understand that my personal identifying information included on this cover page, or in my attached comments may be shared through the public review process.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Signature: Bj Lundt Joseph H Landolt
Name: Beverly Landolt Joseph G Landolt
Address: 120 Manha Lane 120 Manha Lane
City, State, Zip: Yerington, NV 89447 Yerington, NV 89447
Email: _____

RECEIVED

DEC 07 2007

PUBLIC COMMENTS

PROPOSED ACTION-LEGISLATION

The EIS should explain what purpose the proposed action serves. Has enough research been performed that would allow the conclusion that the water rights acquisition program would actually result in the legislatively stated and intended environmental consequence, that is environmental restoration?

The legislation provides for acquisition of lands, water appurtenant to those lands, and related rights in Walker River Basin, Nevada. The Bureau of Reclamation public information release suggests that the legislation must be read as limiting acquisition of water rights to acquisition of Nevada water rights. However, the legislation speaks to environmental restoration of the entire Walker River Basin. How is this to be accomplished for the Walker River Basin lands in California?

If the legislation restricts the purchase of water rights to Nevada water rights, the purchased rights may not include storage rights as the storage rights for the reservoirs are entitled through State of California permits. The EIS needs to address this issue in its analysis of those rights intended for purchase that will be determined to be most beneficial.

Section 208 of Public Law 109-103 (2005) provided “for the acquisition from willing sellers land, water appurtenant to the land, and related interests with funds made available under Section 2507.” The scoping materials appear to limit the EIS to an analysis of Section (a)(1) (A). The failure to include the following sections of the law must be addressed in the EIS:

- (a) the provisions for funding of tamarisk eradication, riparian area restoration, and channel restoration efforts within the Walker River Basin, and the assessment of which activities will result in the greatest increased water flow; and
- (b) the interests to be acquired must be most beneficial to the establishment and operation of the agricultural research center, as well as to the environmental restoration of Walker River Basin (Sec. 208 (a)(2)(A)).

The Purpose and Need Statement presented during the scoping process was limited to activities identified in Sec. 208 (a) only. It ignored Sec. 208 (c)(1), which provides additional funding for channel restoration and tamarisk eradication. Given the recognized difficulties in delivering any purchased or otherwise acquired water to Walker Lake, the EIS should address why this important legislation was omitted from the EIS.

The EIS should address what criterion will be used to determine successful compliance with the legislation.

What is the scope of the alternatives that will be addressed in the EIS? Despite the statement made by the Bureau of Reclamation in its Extension of Scoping Comment Period notice that

other options of providing water to Walker Lake will not be analyzed in detail in the EIS, the Council on Environmental Quality suggests that alternatives outside the legal jurisdiction of the lead agency must still be analyzed in the EIS, if they are reasonable. Therefore, discussions of all alternatives need to be included in the EIS.

The EIS should identify and evaluate alternative methods for achieving environmental restoration to all or a portion of Walker Lake.

The EIS should comment on why other statutorily mandated activities under the authorizing legislation, including research into innovative agricultural water uses and enhanced delivery methods were not initiated before the acquisition of water rights was initiated.

The following alternative actions must be addressed in the EIS:

- Obtaining the needed water through a combination of alternative measures including conservation practices and channelization of Walker River.
- Placing a dike across a portion of Walker Lake to create a salinity barrier across a portion of the lake.
- Desalinization of Walker Lake.
- Cloud seeding.
- Reservoirs for capturing flood event flows so that the waters may be released later in the season.

If United States Bureau of Recreation is proposing to provide water to Walker Lake by transfer of water rights appurtenant to agricultural lands, the EIS should contain a detailed analysis of how the acquired water will be put to beneficial use to insure environmental restoration.

The EIS should identify the criterion to be used to assess effective environmental restoration.

Is the goal of the proposed action to merely convey additional water to Walker Lake, or is the goal to restore fish habitat? If the latter, is there an inherent conflict between the environmental consequences of restoring wildlife (wetlands) habitat and the stated purpose of the legislation, to provide more water to Walker Lake?

The Purpose and Need Statement suggests that the purpose of the acquisition program is to provide water to Walker Lake so as to implement federal statutes. What rational basis exists for providing water to Walker Lake when the data that is currently available suggests that the goal of the legislation, restoring Walker Lake to a sustainable condition of ecological health, cannot be met through the addition of 50,000 acre-feet per year?

The EIS should assess the adequacy of the amount proposed for purchase given scientific reports which suggest that before meaningful steps may be taken toward environmental restoration of Walker Lake an initial increase in lake volume of 700,000 acre-feet would be required. (Thomas, 1965).

The EIS should analyze the actual goal to be achieved by the proposed action, i.e., the water acquisition program, given the lack of solid science that supports the likelihood that the purchased water will have a positive effect on Walker Lake or Walker Basin environmental restoration.

CLIMATE CHANGE

The EIS should address the effects of climate change on the determination of the quantity of water needed to achieve the goal of the legislation, and what data are being used to calculate these effects.

The EIS should address the effects of global warming in the evaluation of the proposed action.

The EIS should provide information from tree ring analyses of water availability in the region, in its assessment of available precipitation and the resultant impacts on Walker Lake water levels.

The graph presented on the background handout at the scoping sessions was for a limited period; from 1872 to present. Walker Lake has gone dry several times during the last 10,000 years (Thomas, 1995). 1882 was a year of heavy precipitation. Have cyclical changes in precipitation been taken into consideration in evaluating the reasonableness of the proposed action?

DOMESTIC WELLS

The EIS should address the effects that the purchase of local water rights in the acquisition will have on domestic wells in the Mason and Smith Valleys. The EIS should contain an environmental evaluation of how many wells will dry up if agriculture is virtually eliminated in Mason and Smith Valleys.

The EIS should analyze the accessibility of water for domestic well owners should their wells be adversely impacted by the water acquisition program.

Will the project reserve any of the appropriated funds to pay for people to deepen or replace their domestic wells when they dry up as a result of the transfers?

The EIS should address the effects that the purchase of local water rights will have on domestic wells including the decline in the groundwater table and groundwater quality.

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION

The EIS must analyze the percentage of flow lost by evapotranspiration (ET) between the headwaters and Wabuska Gage, and explain how the estimate of the percentage of lost flow was determined.

The EIS should comment on the evaporation rate selected by UNR for calculating inflow requirements in the UNR Walker River Basin Program and the justification for selection of that rate.

Has the scientific community reached agreement on the evaporation rates to be utilized in the calculations of the most beneficial rights to acquire, as well as how much water is needed before noticeable results are produced in terms of environmental restoration? If not, how will the total water availability be established without factoring these rates?

IMPACTS ON JUNIOR WATER RIGHTS HOLDERS

The EIS must address the cumulative impacts on junior appropriators, if transfer of water to instream uses is allowed: Nevada state law precludes the transfer of water rights if junior water rights holders will sustain injury as a result of the transfer. How does the Bureau intend to address this issue, given the foreseeable impact of the transfer of 50,000 acre-feet/year, or more, on junior water users in the Walker River Basin?

IMPACTS ON SMITH AND MASON VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The EIS needs to address the cumulative effects on lands that are being dewatered, including:

- Air quality impacts regarding removal of water from agricultural lands
- Water shortages
- Groundwater impacts-aquifer depletion
- Soil loss
- Ecological systems-loss of wildlife populations
- Fragmentation of the irrigation district as a result of purchases
- Increase in noxious weeds

The impacts on agricultural production in Smith and Mason Valleys resulting from the purchase of water right needs to be addressed in the EIS.

The impacts of the socioeconomic consequences to the Smith and Mason Valleys including, but not limited to, the overburdening of social services and reduction in tax base, must also be analyzed in the EIS.

The EIS should contain an analysis of social justice issues that may arise, as a result of the diminishment of agricultural job opportunities, due to the transfer of water rights to instream use.

The EIS should contain analysis of the potential changes to community dynamics and potential loss of community character for the Smith and Mason Valleys, and alternatives to those changes.

The EIS should contain analysis of cumulative impacts on land values in the Smith and Mason Valleys if the proposed action is undertaken.

The EIS should contain analysis of the changes in land use that will occur as a result of the dewatering of various parcels of agricultural land.

The EIS should contain analysis of aesthetic impacts on Smith and Mason Valleys if the purchase of 50,000 acre-feet/year, or more, of water rights is accomplished.

The EIS should contain analysis of the economic, cultural, and tax revenue costs to Lyon County if the 140 year old agricultural economy of Mason and Smith Valleys is terminated.

With regard to economic alternatives, the EIS should contain information regarding the percentage of the Mason and Smith Valley agricultural economy that will survive if the water acquisition project goes forward.

The EIS should contain analysis of the effects on the Smith and Mason Valleys' irrigation infrastructure, and how reduction of the amount of water available for irrigation will impact other irrigators in the region.

The EIS needs to analyze the impacts this acquisition program may have on the global protein quotient in light of the potential impact on Smith and Mason Valleys' dairy industry.

OWNERSHIP OF WATER RIGHTS AND TRANSFERABILITY TO OTHER PURPOSES

What entity will hold ownership of the purchased water rights? In whose name will the water rights be held?

The EIS should contain analysis of whether the purchased water rights will be irrevocably dedicated, for what purpose, or if they may be sold or leased for other purposes.

If the project fails to achieve its goal of environmental restoration, how will the water be put to use to avoid waste?

If the project fails to achieve its goal of environmental restoration, then what would preclude the holder of the acquired rights from selling them to the highest bidder for municipal use (i.e., private developers in high growth urban areas such as Las Vegas, Carson City, Reno, Fallon, and Dayton)?

QUANTIFICATION OF AMOUNT OF WATER NEEDED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

The scoping materials suggest that an increase in annual inflows to Walker Lake by approximately 50,000 acre-feet will help restore Walker Lake to a sustainable condition of ecological health. If alternative proposals relating to quantity of water required to achieve

environmental restoration were suggested by the research, then the EIS should comment on why other alternative estimates were not selected.

What is the total quantity of water rights, i.e. acre-feet, that will have to be purchased to comply with the purpose of the Desert Terminal Lakes Act, P.L. 170, Sec. 2507, and how was this figure determined?

In the analysis of the proposed action, the EIS must provide information regarding the basis for the selection of a particular methodology for calculating the total quantity of water that must flow past Wabuska Gage to enable delivery of an increase in annual inflows of 50,000 acre-feet of water to Walker Lake. Additionally, information needs to be provided regarding what other alternatives were evaluated and the basis for their rejection.

The EIS should contain information regarding the priority and duty of water rights that have been or are being acquired by the program.

The EIS should analyze how the acquired water rights will be quantified as in-stream rights. Will the purchases be limited to surface rights?

The information from the scoping meetings relating to the Administrative Draft EIS, prepared by the Bureau of Land Management in 2001, indicated that successful infusion of water into Walker Lake would require a pulse of hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of water before the proposed additional amounts would result in remediation of Walker Lake's condition. Please address how this is to be accomplished.

Obtaining the needed water volume for instream flow will require more than twice the nominal water rights (100,000 to 200,000 AF) identified in the scoping information depending on water right type, priority date and point of diversion within Mason or Smith Valley. The EIS should comment on the likelihood of obtaining this quantity of water rights to achieve the required increased flow.

TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS (TDS)

Will the EIS address the issue of TDS levels in Walker Lake? If so, why was a 50,000 acre-feet annual increase in inflow selected as a reasonable quantity given the length of time that it will take to lower the TDS level in Walker Lake?

The EIS should analyze the long term effect of the proposed increase in inflow with regard to TDS levels. What types of studies will be used to evaluate the salinity levels? If a measure of environmental restoration is accomplished, how long will the TDS stay at a reduced level before it starts to rise again?

The EIS should address whether the 10,000 ppm salinity goal as discussed by NDOW is adequate for successful fishery restoration. The NDEP Draft TMDL (February 2005) suggested

that TDS levels as low as 5,000 mg/l make "kidney damage more prevalent" among LCT populations.

Walker River has significant sedimentation issues that are positively impacted by the diversion of water for irrigation purposes. The EIS should comment on how the effect of terminating irrigation diversions will impact the quality of water flowing into Walker Lake.

USE OF BLM 2001 ADMINISTRATIVE DRAFT EIS RELATING TO WALKER LAKE

The EIS should comment on the extent to which the EIS will contain information adopted from the Bureau of Land Management's Administrative Draft EIS (2001).

WATER RIGHT PURCHASES

Was any pre-program analysis done to assess the likelihood that the program will be able to locate willing sellers in sufficient numbers to achieve the goal of increasing freshwater inflows to Walker Lake so as to achieve environmental restoration?

WALKER RIVER INDIAN RESERVATION

The EIS should comment on alternative actions for insuring large quantities of water will not be lost in the area between the Wabuska Gage and Weber Reservoir and between Schurz to Walker Lake, given the meandering nature of the river bed.

The EIS must include an evaluation of the evapotranspiration rate at various points along the Walker River, including within the Walker River Indian Reservation area, and alternatives for decreasing the rate.

In assessing the proposed and alternative actions, consideration must be given to the potential conflict between the goal of the legislation, and the United States' responsibility as trustee for the Walker River Indian Reservation lands. An increase in inflows into Walker Lake may require modification of the river channel. Environmental justice and sovereignty issues must be analyzed.

Will the EIS address the impact of Nevada Federal District Court, Case C-125 B, on the proposed acquisition of water rights given the Tribe's and United States' claims to priority rights on the Walker River for reservation purposes? How can the acquisition program move forward when the status of water rights on the Walker River is subject to modification?

SCOPING REPORT

The *Memorandum for General Counsels, NEPA Liaisons, and Participants in Scoping*, published by the Executive Office of the President, Council on Environmental Quality, suggests that a post-scoping document be made available to the public. This proposal is particularly applicable when

BEVERLY & JOSEPH G. LANDOLT

Walker River Public Comments

November 28, 2007

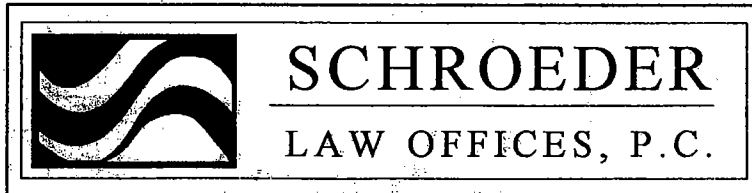
Page 8 of 8

scoping has been conducted by written comments. Will such a document be made available to those who commented, as well as those who participated in the scoping presentations?

Laura A. Schroeder
Licensed in Oregon, Idaho,
Nevada and Washington

V. Scott Borison, Ph.D.
Certified Legal Manager

Daryl N. Cole
Office Manager



Lynn L. Steyaert
Licensed in Oregon and Nevada

Cortney D. Duke
Licensed in Oregon and Nevada

Colm Moore
Licensed in Oregon and Nevada

Therese A. Ure
Licensed in Nevada

Wyatt E. Rolfe
Licensed in Oregon and Nevada

January 9, 2008

VIA US MAIL

Ms. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Dept. of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
705 N. Plaza St., Rm. 320
Carson City, NV 89701

COPY

RE: Errata for Scoping Comments

Dear Caryn:

We have identified two errata in the scoping comments forwarded to you by this office. The first is found on page 1 of the scoping comments made by Tom Reviglio, dated November 27, 2007 and on page 6 of the scoping comments made by Beverly and Joseph G. Landolt, November 28, 2007.


Reference was made to the Desert Terminal Lakes Act as P.L. 170, Sec. 2507. The correct reference should be P.L. 170-171, Sec. 2507.

The second is located in the Schroeder Law Offices, P.C., letter dated December 7, 2007. The photographs that were attached to the comments were identified on page 6 as being dated 1938 and 2002. The dates are more correctly identified as 1938 and 2000. The photographs themselves correctly reflect the date of their origin.

Please incorporate these changes in the identified scoping comments. If you have any questions, I may be reached at (503) 281-4100.

Very truly yours,

SCHROEDER LAW OFFICES, P.C.


Lynn L. Steyaert

ELS:tj

cc: Clients

phone 503-281-4100

fax 503-281-4600

1915 NE 39th Avenue, P.O. Box 12527, Portland, Oregon 97212-0527

www.water-law.com

RECEIVED

JAN 14 2008

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Piedmont Basin Area Office

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DECEMBER 10,

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Marianne F. Leinassar

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: P.O. Box 117

City, State, Zip: Smith, NV 89430 Date: 12/10/07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

We worry about our continued future in the Ranching business. Taking water away from the lands will cause problems with the underground recharge - our wildlife will leave their historic areas.

putting water towards a good lake that would survive is one thing but Walker lake is a dying lake - turning to salt just as Mono lake has done.

Agriculture's way of life - the family farms ^{are} slowly dwindling - our communities will lose economically and once what was green will become a new dust bowl.

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007



Lyon County Farm Bureau

46 Mackenzie Lane, Yerington, NV 89447

Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
Bureau of Reclamation
705 N. Plaza St. Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

We are writing today in regard to the Bureau of Reclamation's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process for the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program. Along with our intention of having these comments included in development of the EIS, we also request that these comments be included in the public record for this process.

Lyon County Farm Bureau represents several hundred of our member families impacted by the decisions related to the proposed action of acquiring water for Walker Lake. Because of this position as affected interest, we believe that due consideration be given to the property rights (land and water) as well as the livelihoods of our members.

Proposed Lease/Water Management Alternative For Evaluation:

Because of our strong support for something other than the complete loss of water rights from agricultural production, we request that the Draft EIS include an alternative which involves a Lease/Water Bank program.

We believe this alternative should be based on outlining a program, operated by the Walker River Irrigation District, to manage the lease program as well as deliver a specified annual amount of water to Walker Lake.

The water would be acquired through a lease program, on a voluntary basis with willing participants, using variable terms for the length of time a water right owner would forgo use of their water on their land. The length of these lease agreements could cover three, five and ten years.

Reimbursement for leases should be weighted to provide for greater levels of payments for those who make longer-term commitments to provide water for Walker Lake.

Analysis for this alternative needs to include input from the Nevada Water Engineer in regard to whether this type of lease of water would violate beneficial use in the context of state water law.

We believe the stipulations for this lease alternative should permit rotational production of idled lands, but should not allow for supplemental ground water from wells replacing Walker River water, leased for delivery to Walker Lake.

Should the findings of this option meet the requirements for annual water deliveries to Walker Lake and offer positive benefits for economic and social components, we would urge that this Alternative be designated as the "Preferred Alternative".

Proposed No Action Alternative For Evaluation:

In addition to a Lease/Management alternative, we believe that a comprehensive analysis be provided of maintaining the status quo.

This "No Action Alternative" should be based on actual outcomes and include base-line data of environmental, economic and social values with as much weight given to conditions throughout the Walker River system as the terminal lake at the end of the system.

We expect that the Draft EIS will provide data which reports the amount of water reaching Walker Lake over the past 50 years. This base-line data should be provided on a year-by-year basis.

Proposed Alternative To Acquire Water From Other Sources:

In addition to the other alternatives to be included in the Draft EIS we believe that there would also be an option which considers a full range of alternative water sources for Walker Lake.

Water sources from ground water, Whiskey Flats and other non-Walker River sources should be covered as an alternative in the evaluation.

While irrigation use of water is most often blamed for reduced water flow to Walker Lake, it is very likely that watershed condition for the length of the Walker Rivers need attention. We urge that a report be included in the Draft EIS on how enhancement of the watershed could increase the amount of water available for delivery to Walker Lake.

Concerns To Be Addressed In Evaluating Acquisition Alternative:

While we are not in favor of the proposed acquisition of water rights, we expect these concerns to be covered in the preparation of the Draft EIS...

"Different Water Rights – Different Consequences"... We don't believe that this EIS process can be conducted on a "programmatic basis" without dealing with the specific nature of different types of water rights in the Walker River system. Because of the variety of the water rights in the Walker River system, not all water rights will have the same implications for water delivered to Walker Lake. At the same time, the results of water purchased will have different ramifications for water right owners who do not sell.

We strongly maintain that further analysis is required, on a case-by-case basis depending on the specifics of the water rights which are purchased. Without dealing with specific details of the water right, which has been purchased, how can complete scrutiny be given to the ability of the water right to deliver actual water to Walker Lake? Likewise, how can an evaluation be given to the impacts of the loss of water from up-stream uses without the actual water right in question being used to complete the assessment?

“Impacts To Other Water Right Owners” ... Details need to be presented on how water right owners, who don’t sell their water rights, will be protected from having their rights impaired by a sale of water rights geared for delivery to Walker Lake. This information needs to include all of the potential ramifications of water deliveries being impacted by volumes of water not being available due to it remaining in the river system for delivery to Walker Lake.

How will the current decree be impacted by water rights acquired for delivery to Walker Lake? Describe how water as part of a storage water right will be dealt with. This background information should also describe how water not leaving the river will impact water rights for those who are not involved in the program. The law states that water will be acquired from only willing sellers – this means protections need to be included to prevent taking water from those who are unwilling to participate.

In no way should water rights, acquired through the acquisition process, be permitted to negatively affect other water right owners because of an enhanced status related to being acquired for the benefit of Walker Lake.

In detailing the ramifications of water rights being moved to use in Walker Lake, we believe it essential that an in-depth evaluation be given to property values along the entire reach of the Walker Rivers be analyzed in light of the change. This data and analysis should be included in the effects of the social and economic impacts in each of the alternatives provided in the Draft EIS.

All aspects of mitigation efforts should be clearly defined as part of the EIS document.

“Legal Process For Transfer”... There is currently a high level of litigation surrounding water rights along the length of the Walker River system. Please indicate in the EIS how water rights under the cloud of litigation can be included in possible sale or other types of transactions. Does the purchaser of the water right or entity acquiring water right also receive the responsibility of the litigation attached to the water right? Does the litigation need to be resolved prior to any transfer of ownership of the water right(s)?

As part of the details involving movement of water to Walker Lake, please detail in the Draft EIS the methods to be used for transfer of rights. This should include a complete description of how the change of use will occur and where the water right will be put to beneficial use.

Will the transfer of the water right include the entire water right...or just the consumptive use?

“Compliance With Lyon County Ordinances”... Lyon County ordinances provide for protection of existing water rights and water uses in our county. We believe the EIS analysis needs to explain and address any short-comings the acquisition program could have in complying with Lyon County Ordinances.

Whoever or whatever entity will acquire property title to land and appurtenant water rights and related interests, should be required to submit documentation to be included in the Draft EIS as to their proposed plans for management of the property they acquire.

These details should establish whether they will take responsibility for property taxes and related Maintenance and Operation charges associated with the Walker River Irrigation District’s delivery system.

“Beneficial Use”... If the University of Nevada System will be the owners of the water right, we request that the Draft EIS document how will they be able to legally put the water they acquire to beneficial use in Walker Lake? The University does not own the lake or have any level of management authority over Walker Lake. Within the context of Nevada Water law, please detail the ability the University System has to own and maintain a water right for the purpose of the water entering Walker Lake.

We also would like to have explained the level of responsibility the University has in adhering to the findings of the Draft EIS. Please detail all of the legal relationships and connections which relate to the EIS being prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation and the University of Nevada System making the decisions about water purchases. If the EIS is to be challenged; is the Bureau of Reclamation responsible or is the University of Nevada the entity to be engaged?

“Resource Management Plan”... In the detailed outline of plans for the “Acquisition Alternative,” we urge inclusion of a comprehensive management plan, detailing the provisions of how acquired land and water resources will be managed.

The proposed management plan should also address the anticipated delivery schedule to be used in taking acquired water to Walker Lake.

As part of the proposed resource management plan, please describe in detail how Weber Reservoir might fit into the process of water moving to Walker Lake.

This description of use should also detail the legal background relating to the amount of water permitted to be stored in this reservoir and how management authority over the reservoir will relate to water moving into Walker Lake.

“Ability Of River System To Deliver Water To Walker Lake”... The EIS needs to report on the anticipated ability of the Walker River system (especially the lower end of the riparian system) to deliver acquired appurtenant water to Walker Lake.

Scientific evidence needs to be documented in the Draft EIS on the capacity of the lower sections of the river to meet water quantity and quality criteria which are capable of benefiting Walker Lake.

The intention of this proposed acquisition of water rights, suggest that Walker Lake will benefit from the infusion of additional water. Water coming into the lake will carry dissolved solids which will be left behind when the water evaporates. Please describe the scientific evidence which backgrounds the value of additional water reaching the lake, amounts of water required and the results of additional dissolved solids being left behind when evaporation takes place.

We also maintain that an on-going reporting system needs to be established to provide, using a metered system, the actual amount of water delivered to the Lake. This information should be distributed to public media outlets in Northern Nevada with details on the efficiency of the river system in delivering acquired water to Walker Lake.

“How Will Acquired Land Be Used In Conjunction With Research Facility”... Based on the language of the authorizing legislation, we would like to learn where the related research facility will be located. The law that passed states the funds are to be used...

(B) to establish and administer an agricultural and natural resources center, the mission of which shall be to undertake research, restoration, and educational activities in the Walker River Basin relating to –

- (i) innovative agricultural water conservation;*
- (ii) cooperative programs for environmental restoration;*
- (iii) fish and wildlife habitat restoration; and*
- (iv) wild horse and burro research and adoption marketing*

Because of the interconnection between the acquisition program and the research facilities, we believe that a full explanation be provided in the Draft EIS how the full implementation of the authorizing legislation be explained.

“Purchase of lands and appurtenant water rights”...Public Law 109-103 spells out specifically that the \$70 million allocation to the University of Nevada is –

to acquire from willing sellers land, water appurtenant to the land, and related interests in the Walker River Basin, Nevada; and...

Based on the details spelled out in the law, the requirement would imply that purchases would maintain the connection of land, water and related interests. The Draft EIS needs to clarify the implied authority/approach (as noted in the “Frequently Asked Questions”, distributed at the EIS scoping meetings) that water rights, alone, might be the basis for acquisition.

Lyon County Farm Bureau Comments For EIS For Walker River Basin Acquisition

Page 6

If acquisition of water rights, without land or related interests, is the approach to be taken, details of the EIS should clearly spell out the mitigation action required, prior to transfer, to establish cover vegetation preventing erosion and weed infestation.

The Draft EIS should also clearly spell out the legal ability of a willing seller, selling appurtenant Walker River water rights, and then applying supplemental ground water to the lands which have had the appurtenant water rights removed. If this is the anticipated or possible outcome of a transaction involving water rights only, the analysis of such a potential needs to be covered.

The Draft EIS should provide a definitive statement of policy by the Nevada Water Engineer of how supplemental ground water fits into "appurtenant water rights" in the Walker River system.

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in this public process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Darrell E. Russell".

President
Lyon County Farm Bureau

Caryn Hunt DeCarlo

Bureau of Reclamation

705 N. Plaza Street, Room 320

Carson City, NV 89701

Re: Walker River Basin Acquisitions Program (PL 109-103)

Dear Ms. Hunt DeCarlo,

The State of Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Water Resources has reviewed the enabling legislation and provides the following comments concerning the scoping of the subject program.

The proposal to implement a program for environmental restoration of Walker Lake through acquisitions of water rights under Decree C-125 must be done in compliance with said decree and where applicable in the State of Nevada pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes Chapters 533 and 534 or any other pertinent state law. The use of any of those waters for a purpose other than decreed will require applications to change and approval of the applications.

In Nevada all waters of the State belong to the public and may be appropriated for beneficial use pursuant to the provisions under Chapters 533 and 534 of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS), and not otherwise. Any water developments constructed and utilized for a beneficial use whether surface or underground must be done so in compliance with the referenced chapters of the NRS for the subject project as it applies to or is situated within the State of Nevada.

In acquiring decreed water rights consideration of regulating the diversions of water from both the East and West Forks of the Walker River should be well thought-out. Determining and controlling inflow and discharge from Bridgeport and Topaz Reservoirs as it relates to the Decree. The proposed action may require increased monitoring of river flow and reservoir storage as well updating and maintaining a record of Decree C-

125 water rights that is to include changes to those rights in accordance with the U.S. Board of Water Commissioners Administrative Rules and Regulations.

Applications for changes to decreed rights located within Nevada are filed with the office of the State Engineer (Administrator of the Division of Water Resources). These requests to change are then reviewed by the decree court for final decision.

Changes made to storage waters adjudicated to the Walker River Irrigation District(WRID) by Decree C-125 are done as per rules and regulations developed by WRID, however; this does not apply to any transfer of storage rights outside of the WRID boundaries, and this process is not straight forward from an overall water allocation view point.

All decisions to change the existing decreed rights or any of the waters in the basin should examine the individual as well as the cumulative impacts of the water resources within the Walker River Basin that being both its surface and groundwater components with the intent to conserve, protect, manage and enhance the State's water resources for Nevada's citizens.

If there are any questions, please contact this office.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert K. Martinez, P.E.

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

Public Comment Card

Please use this comment card to submit input regarding the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include any sources of relevant data or information that you feel may enhance this document. Comments must be received by **November 26, 2007**.

Comments can be submitted in the following ways:

1. Turn in today at the Public Meeting; or
2. By US Mail addressed to Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701; or
3. By E-mail to chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov; or
4. By Fax to (775) 884-8376; or
5. If you have questions regarding the EIS or the process, please call Caryn Hunt DeCarlo at (775) 884-8352.

Privacy Notice: Before including your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment - including your personal identifying information - may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Unless indicated by you otherwise, you will automatically be added to the official EIS mailing list by submitting this form.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Carol Masine

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: 230 Hwy 208

City, State, Zip: Gerlingen Nevada Date: _____

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

Harry Reed is not going to stop
this until she ruins agriculture
in Smith Valley & Mason Valley
for all.

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be a standard notebook page or a sheet of stationery. The edges of the paper are slightly irregular, suggesting it might be a scan of a physical document. There is no handwriting or other markings on the page.

.....

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Maurel Masi
Affiliation (if any): Carrol Masi
Street Address: 230 Hwy 208
City, State, Zip: Yerington NV 89444 Date: _____

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

How much does "the Lake" evaporate each year?
How often does it get enough to snow pack to replace it?
It needs a cementing (the river bed)

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: JOHN FRANK McLean An
Affiliation (if any): NONE
Street Address: 417 SEMINOLE DR
City, State, Zip: YONKON NV 89417 Date: 10/22/07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER WAS ONE OF THE EARLIEST
WATER RIGHT HOLDERS OF MASON VALLEY - IT
UPSETS ME GREATLY THAT THE FEDS ARE NOW TRYING
TO FORCE THE LOCAL FARMERS TO GIVE UP (SELL)
THEIR RIGHTS TO GO TO A TERMINAL LAKE!
HARRY REID NEEDS TO BE REPLACED!!!

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

PLEASE FOLD IN HALF HERE

Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Pat Mc Kay

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: 272 Lucille Drive

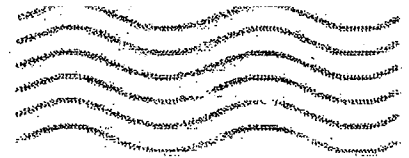
City, State, Zip: Walker Lake, NV 89415 Date: 11/18/07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

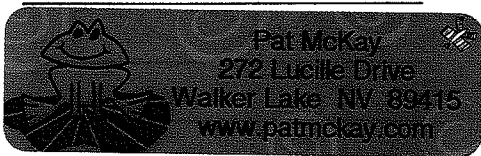
Water is so critical to our area. Much of
it is being wasted before it flows into
Walker Lake. All our wildlife is dying
because of this. What a terrible
loss for now & generations to come.

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

NOV 2007 PM 3 T



Return Address:



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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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To Whom It May Concern:

Foremost we want to preserve Walker Lake. Water is one of the most valuable resources of the State of Nevada. We do not want the Lake to turn in to another Mono Lake, CA or Owens Lake, CA.

The water available should be sufficient to satisfy the needs of all users in the Walker Lake Basin. Primary to accomplish this is accurate measurements for all diversions and wells to account for and police the users of water. No user should be able to use more than his or her allotment!

As a resident of the Walker Lake community I do not want the bed and banks of Walker Lake Community given to the Walker River Paiute Indian Tribe. We would like to see the Tribe take the bed and banks from the existing reservation down to and including Sportsman Park. Further we do not want any of the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D. to be involved in this transaction.

The following are important issues involved; I have circled the issues that are of interest to me personally:

- ① Preserve Walker Lake as a recreation area for all people now and in the future.
- ② Preserve the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D.
- ③ Exclude the bed and banks of the Walker Lake Community being given back to the Walker River Paiute Tribe.
- ④ Enforce and Monitor all water diversions and water wells to make sure no user receives more than their allotment.
- ⑤ Federal financing for development of ground water sources in the Hawthorne Army Depot Lands for either drinking water or to help maintain the level of Walker Lake.
- ⑥ A co-coordinated study to provide solutions to meet the legal requirements for fire fighting and emergency services to rural communities.
- ⑦ Waste Water Treatment Plants for Hawthorne and Walker Lake to help preserve Walker Lake water quality.
- ⑧ Exclude the residents of Mineral County from being charged by the Walker River Paiute Tribe for using Walker Lake: Camping, Fishing, Boat Permits etc.
- ⑨ Financial funding to improve the flow of water in the Walker River. Remove vegetation that consumes large quantities of water. Make necessary improvements to irrigation ditches to prevent water losses.

Pat McKay
272 Lucille Dr
Walker Lake, NV 89415

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NOV 20 2007

**BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office**

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

Public Comment Card

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DECEMBER 10,

Comments can be submitted in the following ways:

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Nuti Brothers (Michael Nuti)
Affiliation (if any): Partner
Street Address: 112 Hwy 338
City, State, Zip: Smith, NV. 89430 Date: 12-8-2007

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

We do not support the water acquisition program.
Walker Lake is a terminal lake and can not be saved
by sending all the water to the Lake. Water purchases
will be detrimental to the irrigation systems upstream
imposing a greater tax burden on the remaining water users
for O&M expenses. It will create environmental and economic

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

Problems for the communities involved.

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Ben Miller

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: 634 Welcome Dr.

City, State, Zip: Walker Lake, NV. 89415 Date: 11/20/07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

I have lived here at Walker Lake since 1986. I have seen the lake getting lower and worse for fishing recreation for many years. If something isn't done real soon the lake will be a dead lake with no fishing or recreation.

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

12 horizontal lines for return address.

PLEASE FOLD IN HALF HERE

Return Address:



Mr. Ben & Amber Miller
634 Welcome Dr.
Hawthorne, NV 89415



Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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NOV 23 2007

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

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- ⑨ Financial funding to improve the flow of water in the Walker River. Remove vegetation that consumes large quantities of water. Make necessary improvements to irrigation ditches to prevent water losses.**

IJS DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

Public Comment Card

Please use this comment card to submit input regarding the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include any sources of relevant data or information that you feel may enhance this document. Comments must be received by **November 26, 2007**.

Comments can be submitted in the following ways:

1. Turn in today at the Public Meeting; or
2. By US Mail addressed to Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701; or
3. By E-mail to chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov; or
4. By Fax to (775) 884-8376; or
5. If you have questions regarding the EIS or the process, please call Caryn Hunt DeCarlo at (775) 884-8352.

Privacy Notice: Before including your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment - including your personal identifying information - may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Unless indicated by you otherwise, you will automatically be added to the official EIS mailing list by submitting this form.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Earlin Milschowsky

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: 188 Betty Jane Dr

City, State, Zip: Walker Date: _____

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

I am a resident of the community at
Walker Lake. We are located 12
miles north of Hawthorne.

If Walker Lake was to dry up. This
community would not be habitable.
A situation like Owens Lake in

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

California would be created. Wind
driven Alkali dust would drive us
from our homes

Also consider:
beauty of the lake
the fishery
Tourism Revenue
Recreation for many
a go system for birds and other creatures

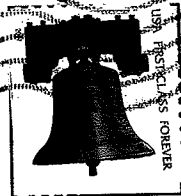
PLEASE FOLD IN HALF HERE

Return Address:

Estl Milschewsky
188 Betty Jane Dr
Walker Lake,
Nevada 89415

RENO NV 895

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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

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NOV 21 2007

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

November 19, 2007

Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
Bureau of Reclamation
705 N. Plaza Street, Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

Subject: Walker River Basin Acquisition Program Environmental Impact Statement,
Scoping Comments.

Dear Ms DeCarlo,

As a resident of the Walker River Basin in Nevada for more than 60 years, and an owner of water rights from 1946 through 1975 under the name "Minister Ranch", and from 1976 to the present time under the name "Bolton-Rose Surviving Trust", I wish to make the following comments regarding the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement to be made on the proposed acquisition of water rights from Nevada holders for the benefit of Walker Lake.

The EIS to be prepared under your direction must establish the amount of water available for acquisition in the future based on the average annual flows in the Walker River Basin in Nevada in order to determine the impacts transfer of those flows, or parts of those flows, would have, both to the areas the transfers were proposed to be made from, and the area the transfer is proposed to be made to.

It would be simple to make the assumption that the annual flows in the Walker River Basin in Nevada would in the future mirror the annual flows of the past. That assumption would be a fatal error in the EIS as it would provide no realistic measure of impacts to either area being impacted by the proposed water transfer.

I call your attention to a statement made by Steven Chu, a Nobel laureate, and Director of Lawrence Berkley National Laboratory, regarding the Sierra Nevada snowpack, the source of the Walker River waters. This past May he stated that "even the most optimistic climate models for the second half of this century suggest that 30 to 70 percent of the snowpack will disappear. There is a two-thirds chance there will be a disaster, and that's in the best scenario." This quote is from the New York Times Magazine of October 21, 2007, in a story by Jon Gertner.

This same story notes that environmental engineer Bradley Udall, head of the Western Water Assessment Bureau, located in the Boulder, Colorado offices of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, at a U.S. Senate hearing in June stated "all water management actions based on 'normal', as defined by the 20th century, will increasingly turn out to be bad bets."

The climate has changed over the years that I have lived in Mason Valley, with a longer frost free growing season and more years of reduced river flows in the later years as compared to the earlier years. Mr. Udall testified to the U.S. Senate that the Colorado River Basin is two degrees warmer now than it was in 1976. I believe the change in the Walker River Basin is at least as much. Climate change has become evident throughout the entire Southwest, and the effect that it has on the proposed transfer of water rights must be addressed by the EIS.

The level and character of damage to the interests of the residents, irrigators, businesses and governments of Nevadans in the Walker River Basin above Walker Lake, as well as a realistic statement of the sustainable change in quantity and quality of waters in Walker Lake that would be the result of the acquisition program envisioned must be clear in the Environmental Impact Statement. To accomplish this climate change, including the warming now apparent in the Southwest, and drought impacts, both short and long term, must be addressed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bolton F. Minister". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end.

Bolton F. Minister
55 E. Tognoli Lane
Yerington, NV 89447

RECEIVED

NOV 21 2007

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

November 19, 2007

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Bureau of Reclamation
705 N. Plaza Street, Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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Bolton F. Minister
55 E. Tognoli Lane
Yerington, NV 89447

148 RECEIVED

NOV 21 2007

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

To Whom It May Concern:

Foremost we want to preserve Walker Lake. Water is one of the most valuable resources of the State of Nevada. We do not want the Lake to turn in to another Mono Lake, CA or Owens Lake, CA.

The water available should be sufficient to satisfy the needs of all users in the Walker Lake Basin. Primary to accomplish this is accurate measurements for all diversions and wells to account for and police the users of water. No user should be able to use more than his or her allotment!

As a resident of the Walker Lake community I do not want the bed and banks of Walker Lake Community given to the Walker River Paiute Indian Tribe. We would like to see the Tribe take the bed and banks from the existing reservation down to and including Sportsman Park. Further we do not want any of the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D. to be involved in this transaction.

→ The following are important issues involved; I have circled the issues that are of interest to me personally:

1. Preserve Walker Lake as a recreation area for all people now and in the future.
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VICTOR MUIR
525 WALKER DR.
WALKER LAKE, NV 89415

11-17-07

Victor Muir

Bureau of Reclamation
Attention: Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

December 3, 2007

Re: Walker River Basin Project

I am writing regarding the impact the WALKER RIVER BASIN PROJECT would have on Mason and Smith Valleys. The 2002 Farm Bill addressed desert terminal lakes, but left out any mention of purchasing or leasing water rights, but Senator Reid changed that in the appropriations bill to include water right purchases from willing sellers. Reid also seems to have a conflict of interest by giving UNR the money to purchase water rights and also conducting the environmental impact study. He certainly does not seem to have the interests of citizens of these valleys in mind. Even though sellers provide water, there is no certainty that 50,000 acre feet will ever reach the terminal desert lake Walker. Evaporation would greatly affect this outcome. The farmers may not always be allocated their total allowance due to dry years.

Jim Sanford has informed us for several weeks in great detail concerning this Project in articles in The Mason Valley News. This has been so helpful. He named alternatives for procuring water from Whiskey Flat, Cottonwood Creek, and near Schurz. Whiskey Flat Ranch water rights were for sale around 1994-95. Senator Reid did not pursue this.

Most importantly, the economic impact upon these valleys if water rights are sold are: The farming and ranching lifestyles of these valleys would literally dry up. The loss of irrigation water would impact the domestic wells, reducing groundwater. Flora and fauna next to the river would be seriously affected. The loss of the farming and ranching communities would impact other businesses and the labor pool, ultimately decreasing the tax base. Should Mason and Smith Valleys sacrifice their social and economic lifestyles in order to try to save a terminal desert lake when there is no way of knowing how much water would reach the lake? 20,000 acres in Lyon and Douglas Counties turned to dust is not justified in order to attempt to save a desert terminal lake. I ASK YOU FOR A FAIR, UNBIASED, SCIENTIFIC, AND COMPREHENSIVE EIS.

Barbara Pedersen
Smith Valley
1 Tevell Lane - Wellington

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

Public Comment Card

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2. By US Mail addressed to Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701; or
3. By E-mail to chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov; or
4. By Fax to (775) 884-8376; or
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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name:

Robert & Darlene Nelson

Affiliation (if any):

Street Address:

567 Joshua Rd

City, State, Zip:

Walker Lake NV

Date:

8/9/15

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

I believe a way can be found
to make sure everyone can recieve
a share and preserve the lake. I believe
Walker Lake has "great" potential
for Nevada in the future.

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

Lined area for return address and postage.

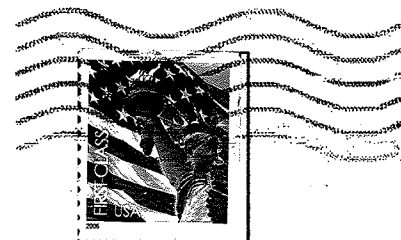
PLEASE FOLD IN HALF HERE

Return Address:

R. Nelson
567 Joshua RD
WALKER LAKE RD
89415

RENO NV 895

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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

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Nevada Farm Bureau Federation

2165 Green Vista Dr., Suite 205, Sparks, NV 89431

Phone: (775) 674-4000

Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
Bureau of Reclamation
705 N. Plaza St. Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

In Regard To Public Scoping For EIS For Walker River Basin Acquisition

We are writing today with input for the Bureau of Reclamation's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process for the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program. We strongly encourage the comments submitted here be included in development for this important document. We would also like our comments to be included in the public record for this process.

Nevada Farm Bureau is a general farm organization with several hundred of our farm/ranch families impacted by the decisions related to the proposed action of acquiring water for Walker Lake. Because of this position as affected interest, we believe that due consideration be given to the property rights (land and water) as well as the livelihoods of our members.

EIS Process and Proposed Actions:

Our initial perspective, which we seek to have covered by an explanation in the EIS document, relates to the context of this analysis.

In the Federal Register Notice of Intent to Prepare An Environmental Impact Statement, the stated actions indicated... *"The actions to be analyzed in this EIS will be the purchase of water rights and related interests from willing sellers in the Walker River Basin, Nevada."*

While attending the scoping meetings and receiving the support material, we noted on the handout, "Frequently Asked Questions" two questions and the answer to each...

Will property owners be able to retain partial water rights?

Willing sellers may choose to offer up all or some of their water rights. The University then will decide whether to move forward with the purchase of the water rights.

Will the University both buy and lease water rights?

The University is considering applicable long-term leases, but prefers buying water rights because of the permanent nature of the commitment to transfer water to Walker Lake.

In regard to the first question/answer, please describe the legal basis and perspective which will allow a water right to be fragmented as described in this “sample response”.

Also, in both of the answers the inference is that the “University” is the entity responsible for making decisions regarding acquisition.

Based on this assumption, please explain the context and linkage of how the Bureau of Reclamation is conducting the EIS evaluation, but the University (not bound by NEPA requirements) is making the decisions of what actions will be taken. How does this correlate with the context the Bureau of Reclamation’s requirements for conducting and EIS? What is the “action” to be taken by the agency responsible for the EIS?

We also would like to have explained the level of responsibility the University has in adhering to the findings of the Draft EIS. Please detail all of the legal relationships and connections which relate to the EIS being prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation and the University of Nevada System making the decisions about water purchases. If the EIS is to be challenged; is the Bureau of Reclamation responsible or is the University of Nevada the entity to be engaged?

We would like to emphasize, for the record, our concerns that this EIS process is not the decision tool intended by NEPA – or by the requirements of the Bureau of Reclamation’s own manual pertaining to EIS development. Instead, we are apprehensive that this document and process is a formality conducted to justify a pre-determined course of action – that somehow by going through this charade a façade of legitimacy will be created for the purchase program.

Because of the way the arrangements are constructed, with the University of Nevada being involved and the nature of this involvement, we believe that this EIS is not an honest evaluation and analysis of alternatives.

As part of the requirements for the scoping process, we request that the Draft EIS identify the entity which will own and maintain ownership of acquired land and appurtenant water rights. Ownership and the responsibilities the “owner” are critical issues that need full disclosure and attention. To this point, so far there has been no announcement on who will own the acquired land and appurtenant water rights, should the decision be made to go forward with acquisition.

Background Information Request – Desert Lakes Program:

The 2002 Farm Bill was the original funding (\$200 million) for the proposed acquisition of Land and Appurtenant Water Rights for delivery of water to Walker Lake. This funding was directed to the Bureau of Reclamation’s “Desert Lakes” program. The Congressional directive also included provisions that none of the funds were to be used for acquiring lands or water. We urge that a full disclosure be presented on how funding for the Desert Lakes has been spent thus far.

We hope that we will be able to learn how this program has been operated with accomplishments documented as background leading into the stage of how the \$70 million of funds were re-appropriated and the intent of Congress was by-passed to be used for purchase of lands and water.

Authority To Change Legislation:

Through the explanation of how the process has arrived at the point of acquiring land and appurtenant water rights we hope that documentation can be provided to detail the authority given to make decisions beyond the specifics spelled out in the authorizing legislation.

We request details concerning the legal authority to make changes in the program's operation which suggest that only water might be included in the transaction – as opposed to the directive of the legislation which calls for “*land, water appurtenant to the land and related interests in the Walker River Basin, Nevada*” .

We also want to learn where the related research facility will be located. In addition to “acquiring land, water appurtenant to the land...” the authorizing legislation states that the funds are to be used...

(B) to establish and administer an agricultural and natural resources center, the mission of which shall be to undertake research, restoration, and educational activities in the Walker River Basin relating to –

- (i) innovative agricultural water conservation;*
- (ii) cooperative programs for environmental restoration;*
- (iii) fish and wildlife habitat restoration; and*
- (iv) wild horse and burro research and adoption marketing*

Because of the interconnection between the acquisition program and the research facilities, we believe that a full explanation be provided in the Draft EIS how the full implementation of the authorizing legislation will be carried out.

Proposed Lease/Water Management Alternative For Evaluation:

In addition to the likely “Preferred Alternative” of Acquiring Land and Appurtenant Water Rights for delivery of water to Walker Lake, we request formal consideration be given to a Lease/Water Bank Alternative.

We believe this alternative should be based on outlining a program, operated by the Walker River Irrigation District, to manage the lease program as well as delivery of a specified annual amount of water to Walker Lake. The water would be acquired through a lease program with variable terms for the length of time a water right owner would forgo use of their water on their land. The length of these lease agreements could cover three, five and ten years.

Reimbursement for leases should be weighted to provide for greater levels of payments for those who make longer-term commitments to provide water for Walker Lake.

Analysis for this alternative needs to include input from the Nevada Water Engineer in regard to whether this type of lease of water would violate beneficial use in the context of state water law.

We believe the stipulations for this lease alternative should permit rotational production of idled lands, but should not allow for supplemental ground water from wells replacing Walker River water, leased for delivery to Walker Lake.

The Klamath Water Bank program may provide a possible model and source for information for evaluating environmental, economic and social consequences of a lease approach.

Should the findings of this option meet the requirements for annual water deliveries to Walker Lake and offer positive benefits for economic and social components, we would urge that this Alternative be designated as the "Preferred Alternative".

Proposed No Action Alternative For Evaluation:

In addition to a Lease/Management alternative, we strongly maintain the importance of providing a status quo alternative, evaluating the merits and strengths of not doing anything to replace private ownership of lands and appurtenant water rights.

This "No Action Alternative" should be based on actual outcomes and include base-line data of environmental, economic and social values that occur in the upper watersheds with as much weight given to conditions throughout the Walker River system as the terminal lake at the end of the system.

We encourage the Draft EIS provide data which reports the amount of water reaching Walker Lake over the past 50 years. This information would be most helpful if it offers details on a year-by-year basis.

Proposed Alternative To Acquire Water From Other Sources:

In addition to the other alternatives we have detailed so far, we also believe another reasonable option which should be included in the Draft EIS, is an alternative which looks into alternative sources for water to go to Walker Lake.

Water sources from ground water, Whiskey Flats and other non-Walker River sources should be covered as an alternative in the evaluation.

While irrigation use of water is most often blamed for reduced water flow to Walker Lake, it is very likely that watershed condition for the length of the Walker Rivers need attention. We urge that a report be included in the Draft EIS on how enhancement of the watershed could increase the amount of water available for delivery to Walker Lake.

Proposed Acquisition Alternative:

While we believe that the bias for this approach will be given an inappropriate level of consideration and is most likely the Alternative which has been established as the outcome with or without an EIS evaluation – we maintain the importance of addressing our concerns with balanced assessment and documented anticipation to be used for measuring performance.

Hollow promises or inflated benefits of acquiring lands and appurtenant water rights from willing sellers will serve as testament to the validity of the manner in which this NEPA will be conducted.

Examples, like the U.S. Forest Service and their actions to acquire land and appurtenant water rights of the Rosachi Ranch near Wellington, NV serve as stark reminders of what happens to productive lands when federal funds are used to buy out private owners.

Concerns To Be Addressed In EIS Under Acquisition Alternative:

“Purchase of lands and appurtenant water rights”...Public Law 109-103 spells out specifically that the \$70 million allocation to the University of Nevada is –

to acquire from willing sellers land, water appurtenant to the land, and related interests in the Walker River Basin, Nevada; and...

Based on the details spelled out in the law, the requirement would imply that purchases would maintain the connection of land, water and related interests. The Draft EIS needs to clarify the implied authority/approach (as noted in the “Frequently Asked Questions”, distributed at the EIS scoping meetings) that water rights, alone, might be the basis for acquisition.

If acquisition of water rights, without land or related interests, is the approach to be taken, details of the EIS should clearly spell out the mitigation action required, prior to transfer, to establish cover vegetation preventing erosion and weed infestation.

The Draft EIS should also clearly spell out the legal ability of a willing seller, selling appurtenant Walker River water rights, and then applying supplemental ground water to the lands which have had the appurtenant water rights removed. If this is the anticipated or possible outcome of a transaction involving water rights only, the analysis of such a potential needs to be covered.

The Draft EIS should provide a definitive statement of policy by the Nevada Water Engineer of how supplemental ground water fits into “appurtenant water rights” in the Walker River system.

“Resource Management Plan – Acquired Land”... In the detailed outline of plans for the “Acquisition Alternative,” we urge inclusion of a comprehensive management plan, detailing the provisions of how acquired land and water resources will be managed.

Whoever or whatever entity will acquire property title to land and appurtenant water rights and related interests, should be required to submit documentation to be included in the Draft EIS as to their proposed plans for management of the property they acquire.

These details should establish whether they will take responsibility for property taxes and related Maintenance and Operation charges associated with the Walker River Irrigation District’s delivery system.

“Resource Management Plan – Acquired Water”... The proposed management plan should also address the anticipated delivery schedule to be used in taking acquired water to Walker Lake.

As part of the proposed resource management plan, please describe, in detail, how Weber Reservoir might fit into the process of water moving to Walker Lake. This description of use should also detail the legal background relating to the amount of water permitted to be stored in this reservoir and how management authority over the reservoir will relate to water moving into Walker Lake.

There should also be clearly documented protection measures which indicate how water right owners, who do not sell land and appurtenant water rights and related interests, will not have their rights negatively impacted by these acquisitions. Any and all negative impacts to those not involved in acquisitions should be spelled out with alternatives for potential mitigation actions to offset these negatives.

“Ability Of River System To Deliver Water To Walker Lake”... The EIS needs to report on the anticipated ability of the Walker River system (especially the lower end of the riparian system) to deliver acquired appurtenant water to Walker Lake.

This information should provide the scientific evidence regarding the expected amount of water to reach Walker Lake through the river system.

The intention of this proposed acquisition of water rights, suggest that Walker Lake will benefit from the infusion of additional water. Water coming into the lake will carry dissolved solids which will be left behind when the water evaporates. Please describe the scientific evidence which backgrounds the value of additional water reaching the lake, amounts of water required and the results of additional dissolved solids being left behind when evaporation takes place.

Based on the conditions of the lower Walker River system, please describe the methods and monitoring systems which will be used to evaluate and publicly report the quality of water reaching the lake.

We also maintain that an on-going reporting system needs to be established to provide, using a metered system, the actual amount of water delivered to the Lake. This information should be distributed to public media outlets in Northern Nevada with details on the efficiency of the river system in delivering acquired water to Walker Lake.

“Different Water Rights – Different Consequences”... We don’t believe that this EIS process can be conducted on a “programmatic basis” without dealing with the specific nature of different types of water rights in the Walker River system.

Because of the variety of the water rights in the Walker River system, not all water rights will have the same implications for water delivered to Walker Lake. At the same time, the results of water purchased will have different ramifications for water right owners who do not sell.

We strongly maintain that further analysis is required, on a case-by-case basis depending on the specifics of the water rights that are purchased. Without dealing with actual details of the water right, which has been purchased, how can complete scrutiny be given to the ability of the water right to deliver actual water to Walker Lake? Likewise, how can an evaluation be given to the impacts of the loss of water from up-stream uses without the actual water right in question being used to complete the assessment?

“Research Data Used – Conflict of Interest”... It will be necessary for all background data used in the preparation of the EIS to be identified as to its source. Information used, submitted, or provided by the University of Nevada System, through any research they have been associated with must be labeled as such.

Because of the University System’s involvement in this project (especially because of their direct relationship with the acquisition of water) any data they or those associated with the institution provide can only be perceived as tainted by a conflict of interest.

Because of the conflict of interest that exists, we strongly suggest that nothing connected to the University System be included in the analysis for any of the alternatives being considered.

“Beneficial Use”... If the University of Nevada System will be the owners of the water right, how will they be able to legally put the water they acquire to beneficial use in Walker Lake? They do not own the lake nor do they have management authority over it – within the context of Nevada Water law, please detail the ability the University System has to own and maintain a water right for the purpose of the water entering Walker Lake.

“Impacts To Other Water Right Owners” ... Details need to be presented on how water right owners, who don’t sell their water rights, will be protected from having their rights impaired by a sale of water rights geared for delivery to Walker Lake.

How will the current decree be impacted by water rights acquired for delivery to Walker Lake? Describe how water as part of a storage water right will be dealt with. This background information should also describe how water not leaving the river will impact water rights for those who are not involved in the program.

The law states that water will be acquired from only willing sellers – this means protections need to be included to prevent taking water from those who are unwilling to participate.

In no way should water rights, acquired through the acquisition process, be permitted to negatively affect other water right owners because of an enhanced status related to being acquired for the benefit of Walker Lake.

In detailing the ramifications of water rights being moved to use in Walker Lake, we believe it essential that an in-depth evaluation be given to property values along the entire reach of the Walker Rivers be analyzed in light of the change.

This data and analysis should be included in the effects of the social and economic impacts in each of the alternatives provided in the Draft EIS. Again background data on how the information was developed should be identified and any research of this nature should not come from the University of Nevada because of their bias and conflict of interest.

All aspects of mitigation efforts should be clearly defined as part of the EIS document.

“Legal Process For Transfer”... There is currently a high level of litigation surrounding water rights along the length of the Walker River system. Please indicate in the EIS how water rights under the cloud of litigation can be included in possible sale or other types of transactions. Does the purchaser of the water right or entity acquiring water right also receive the responsibility of the litigation attached to the water right? Does the litigation need to be resolved prior to any transfer of ownership of the water right(s)?

As part of the details involving movement of water to Walker Lake, please detail in the Draft EIS the methods to be used for transfer of rights. This should include a complete description of how the change of use will occur and where the water right will be put to beneficial use.

Will the transfer of the water right include the entire water right...or just the consumptive use?

“Compliance With Lyon County Ordinances”... Lyon County ordinances provide for protection of existing water rights and water uses in the county. We believe the EIS analysis needs to explain and address any short-comings the acquisition program could have in complying with Lyon County Ordinances.

In Closing:

We look forward to a complete and honest evaluation of the various alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

As we have shared throughout our scoping comments/input, this analysis needs to cover the entire reach of the watershed with a complete evaluation given to the upper reach as well as the impacts of each alternative to Walker Lake.

We also wish to repeat our contention that a complete resource management plan needs to be included in the evaluation of scenarios presented in the Draft EIS. The cumulative impacts of intended actions have a ripple effect on others and need to be fully documented in order for a complete picture of what was evaluated to be determined.

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in this public process.

Sincerely,



Doug Busselman
Executive Vice President

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DEC 10 2007

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

Public Comment Card

Please use this comment card to submit input regarding the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include any sources of relevant data or information that you feel may enhance this document. Comments must be received by **November 26, 2007**.

Comments can be submitted in the following ways:

1. Turn in today at the Public Meeting; or
2. By US Mail addressed to Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701; or
3. By E-mail to chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov; or
4. By Fax to (775) 884-8376; or
5. If you have questions regarding the EIS or the process, please call Caryn Hunt DeCarlo at (775) 884-8352.

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Ronald E. Nilsson

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: 462 W. Cottonwood Dr.

City, State, Zip: Walker Lake, NV. Date: 11-23-07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

To Whom It May Concern:

Foremost we want to preserve Walker Lake. Water is one of the most valuable resources of the State of Nevada. We do not want the Lake to turn in to another Mono Lake, CA or Owens Lake, CA.

The water available should be sufficient to satisfy the needs of all users in the Walker Lake Basin. Primary to accomplish this is accurate measurements for all diversions and wells to account for and police the users of water. No user should be able to use more than his or her allotment!

As a resident of the Walker Lake community I do not want the bed and banks of Walker Lake Community given to the Walker River Paiute Indian Tribe. We would like to see the Tribe take the bed and banks from the existing reservation down to and including Sportsman Park. Further we do not want any of the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D. to be involved in this transaction.

The following are important issues involved; I have circled the issues that are of interest to me personally:

- 1. Preserve Walker Lake as a recreation area for all people now and in the future.**
- 2. Preserve the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D.**
- 3. Exclude the bed and banks of the Walker Lake Community being given back to the Walker River Paiute Tribe.**
- 4. Enforce and Monitor all water diversions and water wells to make sure no user receives more than their allotment.**
- 5. Federal financing for development of ground water sources in the Hawthorne Army Depot Lands for either drinking water or to help maintain the level of Walker Lake.**
- 6. A co-coordinated study to provide solutions to meet the legal requirements for fire fighting and emergency services to rural communities.**
- 7. Waste Water Treatment Plants for Hawthorne and Walker Lake to help preserve Walker Lake water quality.**
- 8. Exclude the residents of Mineral County from being charged by the Walker River Paiute Tribe for using Walker Lake: Camping, Fishing, Boat Permits etc.**
- 9. Financial funding to improve the flow of water in the Walker River. Remove vegetation that consumes large quantities of water. Make necessary improvements to irrigation ditches to prevent water losses.**

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Lahontan Basin Area Office

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* TO TAMARICK BEACH IS OK NO FURTHER.

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US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

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2. By US Mail addressed to Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701; or
3. By E-mail to chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov; or
4. By Fax to (775) 884-8376; or
5. If you have questions regarding the EIS or the process, please call Caryn Hunt DeCarlo at (775) 884-8352.

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: _____

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Date: _____

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

WALKER RIVER WORKDAYS IN 2007 INVOLVED
OVER 350 STUDENTS, RANCHERS, TRIBAL MEMBERS,
ELECTED OFFICIALS, AGENCIES, ENVIRONMENTALISTS,
EDUCATORS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS, IN HANDS
ON CONSERVATION PROJECTS FOR THE WATERSHED/
BASIN IN ALL COUNTIES. WE BELIEVE THIS

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

EDUCATIONAL

KIND OF^V SUCCESS, AND POSITIVE IMPACT
TO THE LAND, RIVER, LAKE AND COMMUNITY
SHOULD BE SUPPORTED & CONTINUED, THROUGH
THE ~~OVER~~ W.N.R.C. & D. AND THE 30+
ENTITIES THAT DONATED OVER 1500 VOLUNTEER
HOURS TO IT'S SUCCESS.

PLEASE FOLD IN HALF HERE

Return Address:

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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DECEMBER 10,

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name:

Ralph E. and Mary E. Nuti

Affiliation (if any):

Street Address:

S.R. 338 Mail Box 112

City, State, Zip:

P.O. Box 49 Smith NV 89430

Date: 12-08-07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

We Will NOT Support The Acquisition Program.

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007